1: Jenness--183 (1913-16) 1922 Copper Eskimo
116, 784, 391

"Mr. Stefansson says that seal blood is used for splicing arrows (2), but the natives told me that this was strictly tabooed, and whenever I saw them making or mending arrows they invariably used caribou blood, if they used blood at all. However, seal blood might be employed by a hunter who intended to use his arrows for shooting seals on the ice. It is only the blood of the seal that is tabooed in this connection, for the skin is always used for the back bracings of the bow."

"2. Anthrop. Papers, A.M.N.H., Vol. XIV, pt. 1, p. 92."

2: Stefansson--92 (1908-12) 1914 Copper Eskimo
116, 411, 391

"The head is glued into the antler forepiece of the shaft with seal blood, usually, though it is sometimes fastened with copper rivets. The shank of the antler piece fits tightly into, but is not glued into, its socket in the wooden shaft. It does not seem to be deliberately intended that the head or antler piece shall be detachable, but as a matter of fact, in about two cases out of three, the wooden shaft does become detached and is usually lost if the wounded animal carries the arrow far, while an arrow-head is seldom lost that strikes an animal, unless the animal escapes."

8: Cadzow--8
116, 325, 391

(1919) 1920

Copper Eskimo

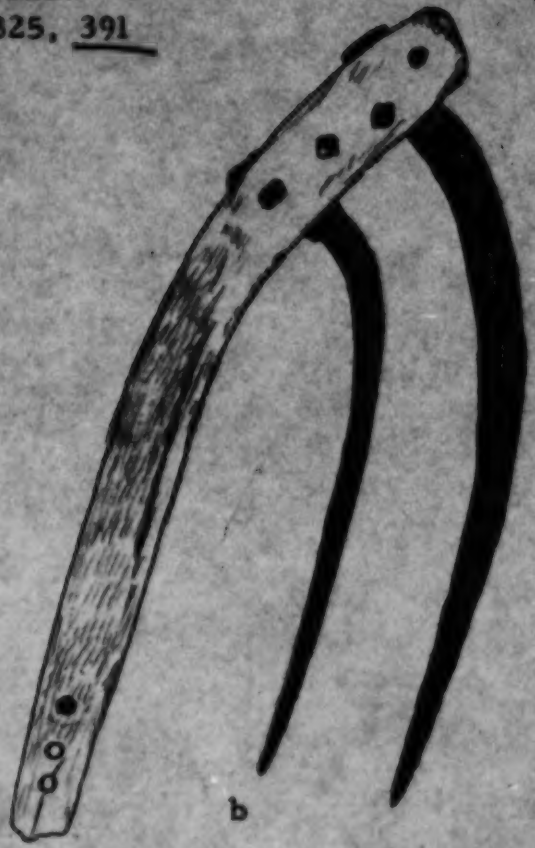

Plate 1--GAFF-HOOK AND FLOAT COPPER
a, Mass of float copper from which a piece has been cut. b, Gaff-hook with copper prongs

8: Cadzow--8-10 (1919) 1920 Copper Eskimo
116, 325, 391

"Following is a description [9] of the more noteworthy objects gathered during the trip.

Gaff-hook. --The manufacture and use of the copper-pronged gaff-hook represented in pl. I was described as follows: First, a rough prong is hammered out of a small mass of float copper (a) with a beach pebble held in the hand. Next it is smoothed and finished by rubbing against a large bowlder. A piece of caribou antler is shaped into a head (b), holes are cut through it, and each prong is attached by passing one end through a hole and hammering it to a flat rivet-head. The prongs are then securely wedged in place with small pieces of copper. The hooks are not of uniform size, but vary according to the fancy of the maker or to the material at hand. Copper rivets are sometimes used to strengthen the hooks by driving them through the head and flattening the ends. The head is beveled where it is fastened to the wooden shaft, and is held in place with copper pegs, the junction being securely wrapped with strips of raw sealskin. The shaft, which is from 15 ft. to 20 ft. in length and about 1 1/2 in. in diameter, is [10] preferably made of dry and seasoned spruce. Owing to the difficulty in securing material for the shaft, three or four pieces of wood are often spliced together to attain the desired length."

24: Jenness--91 (No date) 1922 Copper Eskimo
116, 177, 391, 411

'Mr. Cadzow now draws my attention to the copper-bladed knife illustrated in 'The Stefánsson-Anderson Arctic Expedition,' Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History, Vol. XIV, fig. 46, and points out its resemblance to his own specimen. He will find several more examples of the same type in the Victoria Memorial Museum at Ottawa, and probably elsewhere as well. Their history is as follows. The Eskimos who traded with Captain Bernard were manufacturing implements for sale as early as 1911, for example non-clasping copper pen-knives, large curved knives like our butchers' knives with only one edge (their own copper knives were always two-edged), and the type of copper knife figured by Mr. Stefánsson and Mr. Cadzow. Captain Bernard was too conscientious a collector to encourage the industry, and the natives brought me many specimens that he had refused to buy, confessing that they had been manufactured for sale and were not native to their own culture. The uselessness of these knives was shown by the fact that they were never employed by their owners except in an emergency. Mr. Stefánsson evidently obtained his specimen in 1911 from a native who had come under the influence of the new trade."